

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10, 12 and 13 are pending. The rejections provided in the October 3, 2003, Office Action will be addressed in this Amendment and Response in the order provided in the Office Action.

Election Requirement

The Examiner has withdrawn claims 2, 4-5 and 13 from consideration as being drawn on a non-elected species. Should a generic claim be allowed, then examination of these claims would then appear to be appropriate.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 12 was rejected as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner states that "it is not understood as to how the first and second wall portions can be considered to be angled at about ninety degrees relative to one another and still be obliquely angled as claimed." The Applicant is perplexed as to the timing of this rejection, but appreciates the Examiner thoroughly reviewing the limitations of the claims to ensure proper examination.

No amendment to claim 12 is necessary as the Applicant can provide an explanation to the Examiner as to how the first and second wall portions could be angled at 90° relative to one another and still be obliquely angled relative to a perpendicular axes extending through the first and second face plates. A paper model may be helpful for the Examiner to visualize the claimed geometrical arrangement. Enclosed the Examiner will find a sheet entitled Exhibit A. The three components may be cut out along the dotted lines. A first piece of paper represents a bottom faceplate portion. The Examiner is respectfully requested to place this on his desk. The Examiner will notice that there is a right angle between the two lines labeled "A". Next, the Examiner will find a "chevron" shaped piece. This is representative of a first wall portion and a second wall portion. A double line

extends between the first wall portion and a second wall portion. If the first wall portion is bent at a 90° angle relative to the second wall portion along this double line then the two "A"s on the chevron may be placed above the two "A"s on the bottom faceplate so that the bottom edge of the chevron is directly on top of the two lines which meet at a right angle. The top faceplate may be placed in a similar manner to align the "B"s. The top and bottom faceplates are parallel.

The Examiner will see that the first wall portion is obliquely angled relative to an imaginary first axis extending through the points marked "C" on each of the three pieces. The first axis is perpendicular to both the bottom faceplate as well as the top faceplate (first and second faceplates) as claimed. The first wall portion as well as the second wall portions are obliquely angled relative to this first axis. Furthermore, the first and second wall portions are perpendicular relative to each other as they are positioned 90° relative to one another. Accordingly, the limitation of claim 12 is met by this example and probably many others.

It is important to remember that only a single ribbon segment is provided with this illustration. The claims provide for a plurality of spaced apart ribbons. Accordingly, in order to meet the remainder of the limitations of the claim, at least one other ribbon portion spaced from the one provided will need to exist to meet the limitations of the claims. However, for simplicity sake, only a single ribbon portion is provided so that the specific claimed geographic orientation could be interpreted by the Examiner.

Anticipation Rejections of Claims 1, 3, 6-8 and 10

Claims 1, 3, 6-8 and 10 were rejected as being anticipated by Wootten. The Applicant admits that the first and second face plates, 18 and 19 in Wootten could be considered corresponding structures of the first and second faceplates as claimed in claim 1. However, Wootten fails to disclose a plurality of spaced apart ribbons as claimed. The Office Action states "see fig. 4" for a reference. Figure 4 shows a single "structural medium" comprised of "a sheet 10, fabricated of a

material such as metal, plastic, paper or fiber, having a deformed surface defining an array of projections 11 and intervening depressions 12 each of which comprises an **integral portion of the sheet 10...**" (Column 9, line 38-42) (emphasis added). Figure 14 of Wootten shows a method of fabricating such a sheet 10. There is no teaching or suggestion to provide **parallel ribbons spaced apart and separated** from one another (as claimed) since the structural medium is formed out of a single sheet of material.

The Applicant further disagrees that there is a "width" of any ribbon as defined by the claims extending between the first and second faceplates. There is a "distance" separating the first and second plates, but it is not a "width" as defined by the claims. The width defines a dimension of the ribbons which extends from the top surface to the bottom surface of the face plate. The width of the ribbons is usually longer than the distance the first and second face plates are spaced apart since the ribbons are obliquely angled at least along the first wall portion. (For claim 1). It is important to recognize that the portions cited as elements 13 and 14 do not correspond to the claimed width.

The limitation that "said ribbons extending continuously from the top surface of the first face plate to the bottom of the second said face plate across the width of the ribbons" has been ignored as an element by the Office Action for claim 1. It is important to remember that the length of the ribbons is claimed to be substantially longer than the width. Furthermore, the ribbons run parallel to one another along a length of the faceplates. Accordingly, the anticipation rejection as it relates to claim 1 as well as dependent claims 3, 6-8 and 10 is improper since the Wootten reference fails to provide such structure.

Claims 3, 6-8 and 10 provide additional limitations which have also been ignored by the Office Action in forming the rejection. For instance, claim 3 requires a cross section of the ribbon to substantially form a rectangle wave. A cross section taken through the structure shown in Wootten forms triangular shapes if taken through element 11 or a cross section of two angled segments 13 and

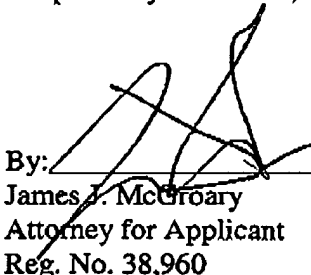
14 which do not form a "rectangular" wave as they will be spaced apart by distance "a" as shown in Fig. 2. Furthermore, at the distance "a", the sheet of Wootten fails to extend continuously from the bottom to top faceplate as claimed. Wootten fails to teach or suggest the claimed structure.

Conclusion

The geometry of the claimed cross cell sandwich core is very important. The Applicant appreciates the Examiner respectfully requesting more information about this structure. As explained herein, the Applicant believes that it will now be clear to the Examiner as to how the structure claimed by the Applicant is different from the prior art. Accordingly, as explained, claims 1-8, 10, 12 and 13 are believed to be allowable and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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